

Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Parks Division
1420 East 6th Avenue
Helena, MT 59620



State Parks are Your Classrooms

Montana State Parks offer a variety of opportunities for students, teachers, and families to enjoy the great outdoors while learning about some of the interesting history of Montana, the unique geology of our state, our fragile environment, our abundant wildlife, prehistoric creatures, our ghost towns and a long list of other varied topics.

In order to enhance students' understanding and awareness of these cultural and natural resources, the Parks Division of the Fish, Wildlife & Parks Department is sponsoring a state-wide poster contest for students in 5th grade.

For their poster artwork, a student may choose any State Park and describe a specific experience in art and words. **The artwork should include a phrase that contains a verb and an adjective to describe the experience.** Examples of such phrases are: Catch a Native Trout, Splash in the Cool Water; or Explore Magnificent Caverns.

Investigate our web site, then create your own unique State Parks experience!

www.fwp.mt.gov/parks



Annual Poster Contest for 5th Graders

- **Theme:** Experience Montana State Parks
- **Format:** Any medium acceptable.
Bright colors and dark outlines are encouraged.
- **Size:** No larger than 9" X 14"
No smaller than 8 1/2" x 11"
- **Prizes:**

First Place: 2 nights lodging, backpack filled with equipment and field guides, and a subscription to *Montana Outdoors* magazine - \$200 value

Second Place: Backpack and magazine-\$150 value

Third Place: Backpack and magazine - \$100 value

The first place winner's school will receive transportation for a field trip for 5th graders to the Montana State Park of their choice.*

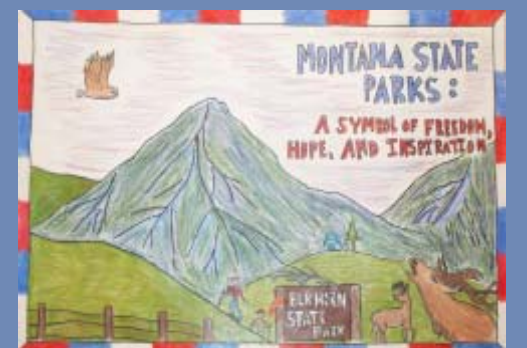
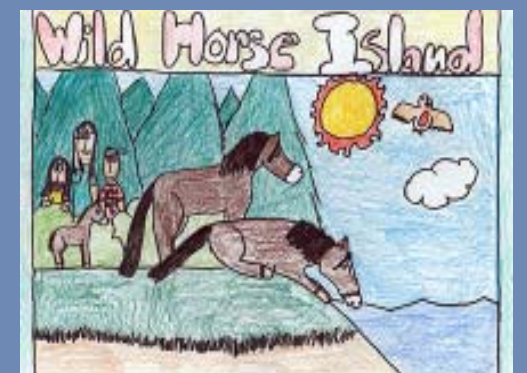
*Limited to 2 busses for one full day.

- **Deadline: April 4, 2008**

Choose your favorite
Montana State Park
and use your artistic talents
to create a "Real
Montana" experience!



2007 Winners with First Lady Nancy Schweitzer and Parks Administrator Joe Maurier



Poster Theme

Theme: **Experience Montana State Parks**

Students can visit the State Parks web site at <http://fwp.mt.gov/parks/quiz/default.aspx> and participate in the poster contest activity page. This educational tool will take them through a quiz of Montana State Parks, providing little tidbits of information. As the students visit the web site to learn about why each park is culturally or naturally significant, they can select the particular park or activity they enjoyed learning about.

Students may interpret this unique contest theme in any way they feel appropriate. They are encouraged to explore their own thoughts and feelings. If the teacher would like to create a class learning project based on the natural or cultural history of a specific park, FWP has videos and learning guides that could be used as resource materials. Just e-mail lhoward@mt.gov.

Purpose

To enhance students’ understanding and awareness of Montana State Parks, to provide an opportunity for children to use their creative talents to illustrate the unique characteristics of State Parks, and to encourage students to use the Internet as an educational tool.

Eligible Participants

Montana 5th Graders in public schools, private schools and home schools

Contest Rules

Questions? Call 406-444-3750 or e-mail lhoward@mt.gov

- 1. Students can choose any medium to create their poster, however bright colors and dark outlines are strongly encouraged.
- 2. Posters cannot be larger than 9” x 14” and no smaller than 8 ½” x 11”.
- 3. All entries must be the original work of an individual student. Parents, friends and others may help the student research the subject, but ideas for the entry must be the student’s work.
- 4. Entries done by two or more students together are not permitted.
- 5. Students must put the name of the State Park and a completed official entry form on the back of the poster.
- 6. The winning posters will become the exclusive property of the Parks Division, FWP Department, for the time the posters are displayed around the state and will be returned directly to winners upon completion of tour. All other entries will be returned to the school after the state contest is completed.

Each participating school will choose what they feel are the top three posters that will be sent to Helena to be judged as finalists. The judging process is entirely up to the school . You, the teacher, may select the winning posters. If you have more than one fifth grade class, you can work together to select the three winning posters from all the classes. Another option is to create a judging panel for the school competition. Judges could include retired teachers, administrators, PTA members, artists, or anyone with an interest and willing to volunteer some time.

Judging

The participating schools are asked to submit their top three selections as finalists in the contest. Once the final posters are received in Helena, a panel of judges will select the first place winner, a second place poster, a third place poster, and honorable mentions. Criteria to be considered in judging will be: creativity, imagination, expression of theme, originality, design, use and control of medium. Winners will be announced April 18, 2008.

Prizes

First place prize will be 2-nights lodging in a Montana State Park, a backpack filled with outdoor equipment and field guides and a subscription to *Montana Outdoors* magazine (\$200 value). The second and third place prize will be a backpack filled with outdoor equipment and field guides and a subscription to *Montana Outdoors* magazine (\$150 and \$100 value respectfully). The winning artist’s school will be reimbursed for transportation costs for a field trip for 5th graders to the Montana State Park of their choice. This is limited to two school busses for one full day. The winning entries will be displayed in the FWP headquarters in Helena and all regional headquarters around the state. At the conclusion of the tour, the framed artwork will be returned to the respective winners.

2008 Montana State Parks Poster Contest Entry Form

Cut out and tape this entry form to the back of each poster. Copy form as needed.

COUNTY:	NAME OF LOCAL PAPER:
T-SHIRT SIZE:	

STATE PARK DEPICTED ON POSTER: (Please note: Yellowstone and Glacier are National Parks, not State Parks.)

STUDENT’S NAME:	LEGAL GUARDIAN’S NAME:
HOME MAILING ADDRESS:	HOME TELEPHONE:
CITY	ZIP:

TEACHER’S NAME:	SCHOOL:
SCHOOL TELEPHONE:	MAILING ADDRESS:
CITY:	ZIP:

I affirm that this is my own original work. _____
(student’s signature)

Postmark Deadline is: **Friday, April 4, 2008**

Mail to: **Fish, Wildlife & Parks
State Parks Division, Poster Contest
1420 East 6th Avenue
Helena, MT 59620**

Questions: 406-444-3750

The promotion of and participation in the poster contest shall not exclude anyone from participating in, denying benefit of, or otherwise subject anyone to discrimination on the basis of race, sex, national origin, age, religion or disability.